

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A computer storage architecture utilizing layered device drivers enables a user to create
and install a device driver into a computer. The device driver is installed into the storage unit
through a registration process. In order to permit the user to specify a device driver stack for the
device driver and specify the relative position of the device driver within the device driver stack,
a novel layered device driver registration system that is separate from a operating system device
driver registration system is utilized. The layered device driver registration system enables the
10 user to install one or more device drivers and to specify the placement of each device driver
relative to the other device drivers in various device driver stacks. The layered device driver
registration system allows a device driver to be dynamically inserted into or removed from a
particular device driver stack.